Thanksgiving: Once a Year or Year-Round?

This message was preached on Thanksgiving Sunday - 25 November 2012 - from the historic pulpit of the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel as "Thanksgiving: Once a Year or Year-Round"… based on 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 and Psalm 9. This sermon, along with over 500+ other titles, is available on CDs and DVDs.

Thanksgiving: Is it merely a once-a-year national holiday, or a year-round experience?

What are you thankful for this Thanksgiving? And what do you remain thankful for… beyond the holiday?

Years ago, I saw a Charlie Brown comic strip where it's Thanksgiving Day and the aroma of roast turkey fills Charlie Brown's house. Snoopy, outside, lying on top of his doghouse, smells that aroma, and he is thinking, "It's Thanksgiving Day. Everybody eats turkey on Thanksgiving Day." So he lies there, watching the back door, eagerly awaiting his Thanksgiving dinner. Finally, the door opens and here comes Charlie Brown with a bowl of dog food. He sets it on the ground in front of Snoopy who hops off his house and stares at the dog food with a forsaken look on his face. And he thinks, "Just because I'm a dog, I have to eat dog food on Thanksgiving Day." Then the next panel of the comic strip shows him looking at the dog food more intently, and he's thinking, "I guess it could be worse; I could be the turkey."

Our text of today says, "Pray continually, and give thanks whatever happens. That is what God wants for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 NCV) Another translation says, "be thankful in all circumstances." God wants us to be thankful, to give thanks no matter what happens in life, no matter what our circumstances. He wants every day to be Thanksgiving Day for those of us who belong to Jesus. Unfortunately, we don't always live thankful lives, do we?

At the opposite end of the cartoon spectrum from Charlie Brown, was an episode of The Simpsons where Bart, who has been in fourth grade for about twenty-five years now, is asked to give thanks for the meal. He bows his head, and begins, "Dear God: my mom cooked all this food; my dad worked to earn the money; we paid for all this stuff ourselves; so thanks for nothing. Amen." Of course, Bart got sent to his room; but could it be that Bart was just saying the prayer that a lot of people have been living?

Martin Luther once observed, "The greater God's gifts and works, the less they are regarded." Looking at the culture we live in today, I'd have to agree. It seems to me that we tend to exhibit a degree of thankfulness in life in reverse proportion to the amount of blessings we've received. This really isn't anything new, however.

Just think about the Israelites wandering in the desert after they were emancipated from Egypt. When they needed food, the Lord said, "I will rain down bread from heaven for you." (Exodus 16:4 NIV) God supplied them with manna… a wafer like substance that tasted as sweet as honey. Each morning when the Israelites woke up, they would peek out from their tents and see the ground just covered with manna; the sun glistening off the manna like snow covered fields. Each day they would gather as much as they needed; then when the sun grew hot, it just melted away. Every day they experienced a mighty miracle of God; yet they still grew ungrateful; and after a while started complaining that their morning meals had become mundane and bland.

Jesus experienced something similar. In Luke 17, we read the account of Jesus healing ten men who were all suffering from leprosy… a disease that kills your nerve endings and deadens your sense of pain. Without any sense (Continued ... on page three)
President's Corner

THANKSGIVING

God blesses our Chapel ... and I see that blessing each Sunday. Quite frankly, I see God’s blessing during the week as well.

Our parishioners continually exclaim how our heavy emphasis on prayer has brought them contentment and healing from their suffering. People continually cite how the “power of prayer” from our Chapel family has brought God’s protection; giving us His armor to fight the enemy of physical and mental suffering of all kinds; as well as, fighting the enemies of the Chapel. We thank God rather than focusing on the negative.

We are thanking God and waiting quietly for life to be measured by the One who knows us through and through. There are so many examples of fruitful blessings. One couple trusted God in the darkness of cancer and gives so much credit for healing to our united Chapel prayers.

We have gone through dark times in recent years. Rather than weakening, we came together through prayer and God has blessed our Chapel— which is now more united, peaceful, joyous and hopeful than I have ever seen it in the years I have been attending. We have united behind our Senior Chaplain and feel fully restored with the return of our Associate Chaplain from service overseas.

This is a special Thanksgiving. Thankfulness during difficult times is a sacrifice pleasing to God. Thanksgiving has great power to bring joy and break the power of the enemy. So, let’s all give thanks to our Lord who has brought peace, contentment, understanding and healing to so many and restored our Chapel so that we can continue to give thanks, praise and glory to God.

Tony Stocker
Foundation President
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Offering Envelopes ... or Give On-Line

If you are blessed by this ministry beyond the walls of the Chapel (i.e., Livestream, bi-monthly newsletter, CDs/DVDs, e-mails, and/or pastoral care), PLEASE consider calling our Foundation office at 952/888-1525 and request the pre-addressed envelopes to mail-in your plate offerings. Be sure to leave your name/mailing address so that we may send the envelopes to you.

OR— If you are home-bound, traveling, relocated or just appreciate this ministry, PLEASE consider making your contributions at our website at http://fortsnnelingmcf.org/make_a_donation.php Thank you.

— Your Finance Committee

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The Board welcomes input from members. If you have an idea or suggestion, please feel welcome to contact the appropriate Board person.

Scheduled Board Meetings in 2019:
Saturday ... @ Foundation Office
23 November (9:00 a.m.)
Sunday ... @ the Chapel Sanctuary
22 December (1:00 p.m.)

If you would like a copy of the 2018 Annual Report, please secure one in the Fellowship Hall or call the Chapel Foundation Office at (952) 888-1525 and leave your name/mailing address that we may send you a copy of this impressive report.
of pain, lepers would often injure and disfigure themselves ... because they couldn’t sense that they were being hurt. Jesus healed them; sent them to temple to be assessed by the priest; and then the Bible says, “One of them, when he saw that he was healed, came back to Jesus, shouting, ‘Praise God!’ He fell to the ground at Jesus’ feet, thanking Him for what He had done.” (Luke 17:15-16 NLT) Then Jesus looked around and said, “Weren’t ten men healed? Where are the other nine?” (Luke 17:17 NCV) Only one-out-of-ten actually came back to say thank you. I wonder which one I would have been. Which one would you have been?

But because that one returned, Jesus said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.” (Luke 17:19 NIV) Have you ever wondered why Jesus said that? I mean, obviously he was made well; all ten of them were made well. I think Jesus had something other than leprosy in mind here; I think He was talking about a spiritual healing. That phrase—“your faith has made you well”—can also be translated, “your faith has saved you.” His faithfulness and his thankfulness restored his relationship with God. It drew him closer to God. That’s what a heart of thanksgiving does for us.

But when we’re not grateful; when we don’t give thanks to God; it has the opposite effect. The Bible says, “For although they knew God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.” (Romans 1:21 NIV) Their hearts were darkened. A lack of thankfulness darkens the heart and widens the gap between the creature and the Creator.

You may recognize the name Rudyard Kipling as the author of The Jungle Book. He also wrote several other books and poems in his lifetime. He enjoyed great success as an author and a poet ... and made quite a bit of money while he was at it. One time, during an interview, a newspaper reporter told him, “Mr. Kipling, I’ve heard that somebody has calculated the money you make from your writings amount to a hundred dollars a word.” Kipling raised an eyebrow and said, “Really? I certainly wasn’t aware of that.” The reporter reached into his pocket and pulled out a hundred dollar bill, gave it to Kipling and said, “Here’s a hundred dollars; now let’s hear one of your hundred dollar words.” Kipling accepted the money, put it in his pocket, looked the reporter right in the eye and said, “Thanks!”

He’s right! “Thanks” is a hundred dollar word. It was worth a hundred dollars when the reporter heard it from Kipling. It was worth a hundred dollars when Jesus heard it from the man He healed. But would we not agree: It’s too seldom heard and too rarely spoken.

We’ve got to realize that Thanksgiving isn’t just a holiday celebration; it’s a heart condition! If we all lived with a heart of thankfulness every day, our lives would be changed. The question is: How do we live like it’s Thanksgiving every day?

I think one thing that can help us stop grumbling and complaining ... the way the Israelites did ... is to keep things in the proper perspective.

Consider what the Pilgrims had been through prior to that first Thanksgiving dinner in 1623. They had uprooted themselves and sailed for America – an endeavor so hazardous that published guides advised travelers to the New World, “First, make thy will.” The crossing was very rough, and the Mayflower was blown off course. Instead of reaching Virginia, where Englishmen had settled 13-years earlier, the Pilgrims ended up in the wilds of Massachusetts. By the time they found a place to make their new home - Plymouth (they called it) - winter had set in. The storms were frightful; shelter was rudimentary; there was little food. Within weeks, nearly all the settlers were sick. William Bradford, a historian aboard the Mayflower, who became governor of the new settlement, later recalled— “That which was most sac and lamentable was that in two or three months’ time, half of their company died, especially in January and February, being the depth of winter, and wanting houses and other comforts; being infected with the scurvy and other diseases ... they died sometimes two or three [people] a day.”

When spring came, the Native Americans showed them how to plant corn; but their first crops were dismal. Supplies ran out and their sponsors in London refused to send help. On the surface, there wasn’t a whole lot to be thankful for those first couple years. But on November 29, 1623, the entire settlement gathered at the meeting house on the hill “to listen to the pastor and to render thanksgiving to Almighty God for all His blessing.” They thanked God for the corn, wheat, squash and other vegetables they managed to harvest. They thanked God for the forest abounding with game and the sea that flourished with fish and clams. They thanked God for protecting them from hostile natives, pestilence, and disease. And they thanked God for granting them the freedom to worship Him according to their understanding of the Scriptures! The Pilgrims knew what it meant to “be thankful in all circumstances.”

(Continued ... on page four)
Folks, we have it so good; and most of the time we don't even realize it! People who are truly thankful don't complain; rather, they find a reason to be grateful.

Matthew Henry, who wrote a commentary on every book of the Bible, was once robbed. The thieves took everything of value that he had. Later that evening he wrote in his diary these words—"I am thankful that during these years I have never been robbed before. Also, even though they took my money, they did not take my life. Although they took all I had, it was not much. Finally, I am grateful that it was I who was robbed, not I who robbed."

My friends: What are you thankful for?

I'm thankful for a lot of things...
• I'm thankful that after years of marriage, my wife still loves me.
• I'm thankful for the comforts of my home.
• I'm thankful for people who pray for me.
• I'm thankful for people who think of me as a friend.
• I'm thankful that popcorn is low in calories.
• I'm thankful that I get to stand up here and share God's Word with you week after week.
• Most of all, I'm thankful that God is good and that Jesus loves me.

If you were to search for the word "thanks," you would discover that the word "thanks" appears in exactly 100 verses in the Bible (NIV). And the common theme is this: We're called to live lives of thanksgiving— not because of all the toys we have, or the house we live in, or even the family gathered around the table—but because God is good and He loves each one of us.

Certainly one of the evidences of the Holy Spirit's work in our lives is a gradual conversion to exhibiting thankfulness in proper proportion to the gifts and blessings we've received eventually becoming a way of life!

So, let me quickly provide you with some practical ways that you and I can exhibit an attitude of gratitude:

I. Witnessing
King David begins Psalm 9 with these words: "I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart; I will tell of all Your wonders." (Psalm 9:1 NASB) David had a lot to be thankful for. He had been on the run, surrounded by his enemies, but through it all God kept him safe. So David wasn't going to keep his thankfulness between himself and God. He wanted to shout it from the mountain tops. He was going to tell everyone he knew about the great things God had done for him.

When was the last time you stopped someone to tell them what God has done for you? If we are truly grateful and thankful in our lives, then we will want to "tell of all His wonders." That's where evangelism finds its beginning. Someone once said, "I'm just a nobody telling everybody about Somebody who can save anybody."

That's an attitude of gratitude. Of course, witnessing is just one way that we can live a life of thanksgiving. Another way is through worshiping every day.

II. Worshiping
As David continues his psalm of thanksgiving, he exclaims, "I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High." (Psalm 9:2 NIV) David not only expressed his thankfulness by telling others about the wonderful things God had done, he also spoke to God about them—singing and praising His name.

In Ephesians, Paul writes, "Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." (Ephesians 5:19-20 NIV) Paul didn't just go around telling other people to be thankful and to sing and make music to the Lord; he practiced what he preached. And given what he experienced; he gave thanks to God in all circumstances; singing and making music from his heart to the Lord.

It doesn't matter whether you're sitting in a pew, or behind the wheel of your car, or around the family table... having a tune in your head and a song on your lips is a wonderful way to live like every day is Thanksgiving Day.

When your heart is filled with gratitude, the overflow will pour out as praise to God. Witnessing and worshiping are the first two ways that David gives us to demonstrate our thankfulness. The third is waiting every day.

III. Waiting
Notice what David says at the end Psalm 9: "The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. Those who know Your name will trust in You; for You, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek You." (Psalm 9:9-10 NIV)

Remember that David most likely wrote this psalm during a time of great distress. He was on the run; hunted by the king and his horsemen; hiding out in caves and living off the meager morsels he could find in the wilderness. Yet, David was willing to wait on Goc—to trust Him, to lean on Him, take refuge in Him. David knew that God would never abandon him, and that God would work everything out in His own time.

Whenever we become anxious, troubled, or disheveled about life, it demonstrates a lack of thankfulness toward God. It's like we...
forget about everything God has done for us in the past, because we can't see beyond the here and now. We get bad news from the doctor and we panic; we worry, we complain. We forget what God did for us last time we got bad news; we forget how God provided for us the last time.

Let us remember to wait and let God be God; to trust Him whatever comes our way; and to give thanks in every circumstance.

My friends: Making every day Thanksgiving Day—will change the way you live your life. Living a thankful and grateful life each day, is essential to happiness, success, and salvation. How do we live that kind of life? By witnessing, worshiping, and waiting patiently on the Lord.

What are you thankful for? Have you counted your blessings lately? Is eternal life among them? The blood that Jesus shed, the life He gives, is the greatest gift ever given. And, God has offered it to you. Have you accepted it? If so, be thankful. If not, do it now ... so that you can live a life of thanksgiving year-round.

Let us pray,
It is with grateful heart, O Lord, that we give joyous thanks ... not just upon a nationally proclaimed day of Thanksgiving ... but continuously and under all circumstances. Especially we do thank You for the promise of salvation to all those who accept the sacrificial shed-blood of Christ upon the cross of Calvary to redeem us from the penalty of our sins. And for those who have yet to humble themselves before the cross, acknowledge and repent of their wrongdoings, and ask for forgiveness and the promised life eternal ... may they do so in this never-to-be-repeated-moment salvation. For we ask this with gratitude in our hearts through Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior ... the Redeemer. Amen.

Serving God and Country,
Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Beale, Jr.
Senior Chaplain
(612) 747-1059
E-mail: KenBeale56A@msn.com

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Annual Christmas Luncheon

Mark your calendars for the Annual Christmas Luncheon on **Sunday, Dec 15th (1:00 p.m.)**. The luncheon will be held at the **Bloomington Event Center** (Knights of Columbus) located at 1114 American Boulevard West in Bloomington. (Between I-35W and Lyndale Avenue on American Boulevard which runs parallel to I-494 on the south side. Get to American Boulevard from either Penn Avenue or Lyndale Avenue. Parking on the east side or west side of the building.)

Tickets will range from **$21-$25** ... depending on your choice of menu (this includes tax & gratuity). This year we will be having three really great menu choices:

- Chicken Bianca
- Parmesan Crusted Walleye
- Sirloin Steak

All entrees include baked potato, green bean almandine, salad and roll.

Children's meals are also available: hamburger & fries for **$11.25** or chicken strips & fries for **$10.50**.

Tickets will go on sale in the Fellowship Hall after the worship service from Sun Nov 3rd thru Dec 1st. Tickets MUST be purchased in advance. No tickets will be sold at the door.

It's a great opportunity to fellowship together as we celebrate our Saviors birth.

— Your Fellowship Committee
Fundamentals of the Faith—The Athanasian Creed

...We worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance. For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Holy Spirit is another. But the Godhead of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one: the glory equal, the majesty coeternal. Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit: the Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated; the Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite; the Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal... So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God; and yet there are not three Gods, but one God...

The Father is not made nor created nor begotten by anyone. The Son is neither made nor created, but begotten of the Father alone. The Holy Spirit is of the Father and of the Son, neither made nor created nor begotten, but proceeding. Thus, there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits. And in this Trinity none is before or after another; none is greater or less than another; but the whole three persons are coeternal with each other and coequal...

But it is also necessary for everlasting salvation that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, it is the right faith that we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is at the same time both God and man. He is God, begotten from the substance of the Father before all ages; and He is man, born from the substance of His mother in this age: perfect God and perfect man, composed of a rational soul and human flesh; equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity. Although He is God and man, He is not two, but one Christ...

So God and man is one Christ, who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead, ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, God Almighty, from whence He will come to judge the living and the dead... one cannot be saved without believing this firmly and faithfully.

A creed is a statement of faith used by singular Christians, churches and congregations to articulate what is believed, taught and professed about God. The three ecumenical creeds common to Christianity include: the Apostles Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Athanasian Creed.

Previously, we reviewed the Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed. This article will focus on the Athanasian Creed which was named after St. Athanasius, a steadfast defender of the Christian faith in the fourth century. Athanasius was one of the most impressive figures in the history of the Christian Church and considered by many to be the "Father of Orthodoxy." His great mission was to fight against the Arian heresy which questioned the divinity of Jesus (that He was true God and true man in one person), and a second heresy which rejected the doctrine of the Triune God. In 325, he accompanied his bishop to the Council of Nicaea where it was primarily due to his compelling arguments and courageous testimony that the Arian heresy was condemned and the doctrine of the Trinity (one God in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit) was affirmed.

The Athanasian Creed continues to serve the Christian Church as a standard for truth and declares that whoever rejects the doctrine of the Trinity and the doctrine of Christ (fully man and fully divine) is without saving faith. Some Christian congregations recite this creed on Trinity Sunday because of its focus on the relationships between the persons of the Triune God. While we do not recite this creed at Fort Snelling Chapel on a specific Sunday, we acknowledge and affirm the eternal truths of the creed.

— Submitted by Eva Zorn
The previous Snelling Spirit book review (Forgotten Fifteenth) highlighted the military operations of the Fifteenth Air Force during World War II and the Allied campaign in southeastern Europe to destroy oil facilities in the Balkan peninsula. While many of the American airmen made successful bombing runs, a number of crews were shot down in enemy occupied Yugoslavia. This book recaps one of the most amazing rescue missions of WWII designated—Operation Halyard. Operation Halyard was an Allied Airlift Operation that rescued 512 Allied airmen trapped behind enemy lines - the largest rescue of airmen in history. In July of 1944, the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) drew up plans to send a team on an ultra-secret mission to evacuate American soldiers downed in enemy territory. The team was led by Draza Milhailovic—a general in the Yugoslav Army of the Homeland and a staunch royalist opposed to the German occupation. It was detailed to the Fifteenth Air Force and designated as the 1st Air Rescue Crew Unit.

Another intriguing aspect to this mission involved tensions that arose between the Brits and the Americans as to the mechanics of the rescue. It turned out that there was a Russian mole named James Klugman, within the ranks of the British intelligence attempting to foil the operation. Consequently, OSS agents decided to go it alone due to their concern regarding sabotage by members of the British intelligence staff.

In 1946, General Milhailovic was captured by the Communists, tried, convicted and executed by firing squad. President Harry S. Truman posthumously awarded the Legion of Merit (military award for meritorious conduct) to General Milhailovic in appreciation for his efforts to free the American airmen. Nonetheless, the award and rescue were kept secret from the public for decades due to political concerns.

The rescued airmen and grateful OSS agents did not forget the sacrifice of Draza Milhailovic and his band of soldiers. On May 9, 2005 the Legion of Merit was officially presented to Gordana Milhailovic, the daughter of Draza Milhailovic in a private ceremony along with veterans of Operation Halyard. Gregory Freeman has written an account that is both riveting and detailed as to one of the most daring rescue missions of all time. This book is recommended for persons with an interest in WWII and in particular the U.S. Army Air Forces campaign in southeastern Europe.

— Submitted by Eva Zorn
Celebrate the Season!

Christmas Garden of Poinsettias

A tradition at the Chapel is to adorn the altar area with beautiful poinsettia plants at our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (4:00 p.m.). The Chapel is made alive with color. You can participate by purchasing a red, pink or white plant(s) — $15 each.

This tradition is made even more precious by the dedications which are made for each of the plants. It’s a beautiful way to honor or remember your loved ones at this sacred and holy time of year.

Plants will be on sale in the Fellowship Hall starting 17 Nov - 8 Dec.

Plants may be taken following the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

— Your Worship Committee

Advent

Soon we will be entering into the Season of Advent, which in Latin means “The Coming.” The Advent Wreath is a circle which symbolizes the eternity of God. The lighting of the first candle represents Expectation. The second candle represents Hope. The third represents Purity. The fourth represents Love. The Christ Candle lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day reminds us that Jesus is the “Light of the World.”

— Your Worship Committee

Christmas Eve

On Tue, Dec 24th we will have a worship service at 4:00 p.m.
Join in the singing of the carols ... accompanied by our Organist — Dr. Desi Klempay — on the historic Kimball pipe organ ... in the beauty of candlelight and of a garden of poinsettias.
The special music will feature instrumental and vocal.
A shuttle bus will be available.

— Your Worship Committee

Social Media

livestream

If you are under the weather or out of town, you can still attend worship services at this site http://new.livestream.com/accounts/3709164. A link to this address can be found on the Chapel website www.fortsnellingmcf.org where you can download a pdf of the weekly worship bulletin and scripture insert. Just click on that link and you will be able to watch LIVE or revisit previous services from the archive. Remember: We love to have you in-person at our services, but in the event that is not possible please join us via Livestream.

You may also ‘Like’ the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation on Facebook to view news of upcoming events.

If you have an e-mail address and are not currently receiving the mid-week ‘Chapel Chatter’ … providing you with what you need to know about the coming Sunday at the Chapel, please send an e-mail to the Chapel Foundation [info@fortsnellingmcf.org] and request to be added to this Constant Contact distro list.

— Your Publicity Committee

Christmas Cookies Needed

The Kitchen Angels are requesting cookie donations for Sundays Dec 1, 8, and 22 for our fellowship hour. Sign-up on the board just outside the Chapel kitchen. Thank you.

— Your Fellowship Committee
Great Hymns of the Faith — “Beautiful Savior”

*Beautiful Savior* also known as *Fairest Lord Jesus* - is among the most cherished of Christian hymns. The original text whose author was unidentified, appeared in a composition dated 1662, in Munster, Germany. It was published in a German hymnal compiled by Hoffman and Richter in 1842 and translated into English by Lutheran pastor Joseph Seiss as part of a Sunday School hymnal published in 1873. The tune to which the hymn is sung, is an eighteenth-century Silesian melody that has always been associated with the text. There is some folklore that suggests the tune was sung by Christian crusaders during the twelfth century on their way to the Holy Land, but there is no factual support for that viewpoint. However, Franz Liszt adopted the tune for a crusaders’ march in his oratorio *Legend of St. Elizabeth*; which association caused the tune to be known as *St Elizabeth* in some circles.

The text of this hymn pronounces esteem and adoration for Christ - the *King of Creation*. The beauty of creation is ardently professed, but the acclaim goes to the Creator the - *Lord of the Nations!* Jesus is our perfect, loving and righteous King and it is our great honor to love and serve Him! As stated in Colossians 1:16:

“For by Him all things were created; things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by Him and for Him.”

In this verse, the apostle Paul affirms the creative activity of Christ. All things, both material and spiritual, owe their existence to Christ’s work as the agent of creation. All things hold together and are sustained by Him - our joy and crown!

— Submitted by Eva Zorn

*Beautiful Savior, King of Creation,*

*Son of God and Son of Man!*

*Truly I'd love Thee,*

*Truly I'd serve Thee,*

*Light of my soul, my Joy, my Crown.*

*Beautiful Savior, Lord of the Nations,*

*Son of God and Son of Man!*

*Glory and Honor, Praise, Adoration,*

*Now and Forevermore be Thine!*

“Schönster Herr Jesu” words and music by Seiss and *Silesian folk tune*  
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Sermon Series on CDs

Our heritage of faith and freedom is largely forgotten today or so distorted as to be unrecognizable. Add to this, the recent defying of statutory to many of these Godly people. This sermon series closely examines their deeds and words; their character as was said of them during their lifetimes; and their personal love for Jesus Christ.

The cost is $10./ set if you pick up your set or $13./ set if you would like it mailed to you or someone else.

There are a few remaining sets of this series on a Biblical worldview of issues facing America.

Let us join in proclaiming the truth ... for all to hear ... before it is too late!

A Few Are Still Available

If you have not already secured your LIMITED EDITION 50th Anniversary Commemorative Print of the Chapel, do so without delay! For a tax-deductible donation of $100 or more to our Endowment Fund, we will ship this print suitable for your framing.

Simply mail your check (payable to “FSMCF Endowment Fund”) to—Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation 9031 Penn Ave So Bloomington, MN 55431

What a wonderful opportunity to display the historic Chapel in your home or office.

— Tim Bray, Johnnie Johnson, Brad Nelson
Endowment Trustees

CDs of our Organist —

Dr. Desi Klempay — performing on the Wooddale Church pipe organ — are available for purchase ($10 ea.) any Sunday in the Fellowship Hall of the Chapel.
Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child is a part of the Samaritan’s Purse, an evangelical Christian international relief organization headed by Franklin Graham. Since 1993 more than 100-million boys and girls in over 130-countries have experienced God’s love through the power of simple shoebox gifts.

Again, this November we have an opportunity for cheerful giving when we collect and deliver stacks of lovingly-filled shoeboxes to be sent to needy children around the world through Operation Christmas Child. Samaritan’s Purse works with local churches and ministry partners around the world to deliver the gifts and share the life-changing Good News of Jesus Christ.

At the request of Samaritan’s Purse, we will be providing their boxes for distribution. We will not be using the plastic boxes. This enables Samaritan’s Purse to better pack the gifts for shipping overseas.

When filling your shoeboxes, think “Boy or Girl” in one of three age brackets: 2-4; 5-9; or 10-14. Some ideas of items to include in the shoebox: stuffed animals, dolls, hand or finger puppets, small cars, plastic animals, balls, jump ropes, yo-yos, harmonicas, tote bags, pencils, erasers, sharpeners, crayons, markers, colored pencils, drawing paper, notebooks, scissors, glue sticks, coloring books, stickers, solar calculators, small flashlights and batteries, headbands, bracelets, combs, brushes, toothbrushes (no toothpaste due to customs requirements), soap, washcloths, band-aids, small plastic cup and plate, water bottle, hard candy and gum (in plastic baggie). No liquids!

This is a nice opportunity to give kids a wonderful surprise during the Christmas season.

Please see Sharon Coyne or Barb Stocker if you would like to make a cash donation toward the purchase of items to fill the shoeboxes or if you have any questions.

Shoeboxes will be available each Sunday beginning 27 Oct and need to be filled and returned to the Chapel no later than 17 November. Thank you and God bless you!

— Your Fellowship Committee

PHOTO: The worshipers pray over the 200 shoeboxes brought to the Chapel on Sun 18 Nov 2018.

Photo by Heidi Reichow

Photo: Gathering in the chancel area for the Children’s Message on Sun 29 Sep 2019. (taken by Pat Hoy)

Photo: The new Children’s Church classroom is established, and a staff of teachers are ready. NOW we need children ages 4-10 to attend during the sermon time of the 11:00 a.m. Sunday worship service at the Chapel. Please spread the word!
Rev. Philip 'Buddy' A. Winn, Jr. became Associate Chaplain effective April 1st, 2016. Chaplain (LTC) Winn enlisted in the Minnesota Army National Guard as a Forward Observer in 1988. He served on active duty in Korea with the 2nd Inf Div as a Driver and Forward Observer followed by an assignment in the 10th Mtn Div at Ft Drum, NY, as Fire Support Sergeant. Followed by 4-years as a Readiness, Training, and Supply NCO in various MNBANG units. In 2001, he answered the call to ministry and entered seminary while continuing to serve as a Traditional Guardsman. He was accessioned into the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps in Nov 2006 and was mobilized in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2007. CH Winn later deployed to Kuwait in 2011-2012, and again in 2018-2019. In 2013, he was selected as the FT Support Chaplain for the MNBANG and currently serves as the Command Chaplain for the 34th Inf Div. CH Winn earned a Bachelor of Arts from Concordia University, St Paul, MN, and Master of Arts in Theological Studies from Bethel Seminary in St Paul, MN. Buddy resides in Osseo, MN with his wife of 19-years, the former Collette Feaster. They have 3-children and 3-grandchildren.

Fort Snelling
Memorial Chapel Foundation

Order for Reaffirming the Covenant Between Chaplain & Congregation
Upon Return From Deployment as an U.S. Armed Forces Chaplain

Sunday 1 September 2019 at 11:00 a.m.

at the
Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel
in historic Fort Snelling State Park, Minnesota

Participants
Lay Leadership: Tony Stocker, Foundation President
Clergy: Officiant: Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Beale, Jr., Senior Chaplain
Military Representative: Chaplain (LtCol) Dan Puju, MN Air National Guard
U.S. Army Chaplain: Rev. Philip A. Winn, Jr., Associate Chaplain

Where the Veteran is Remembered

Photos by Heidi Reichow
Getting to Know You ...

There is a tall, distinguished gentleman who graces the Chapel with his presence on Sundays between May and November. He helps out occasionally as a greeter or may assist the "Kitchen Angels" from time to time. This gentleman not only served his country during the Korean War, but has the distinction of having played professional baseball! But wait there is more to this story ...

Ken Swensen was born at the old General Hospital in downtown Minneapolis- the fourth child of Elmer and Marie Swensen. He was preceded by older sisters Lois and Roberta and brother Elmer Jr, and followed by Eugene and Howard. The family resided in South Minneapolis and it was in this community that Ken grew up and attended school including Standish Elementary, Folwell Junior High and Roosevelt High School. His father worked for Honeywell and his mother stayed at home to raise the six children. While his parents were not overtly religious and did not attend church themselves, they made sure that all six children were baptized, attended Sunday School and were confirmed at the local Lutheran church. It was in this setting that Ken came to learn about Jesus as his personal Lord and Savior. Ken recalled that his parents were no-nonsense and attempted to instill a level of responsibility in each of the children. To that end, they were all assigned household duties to be completed prior to playing outside. One of his favorite memories from this time period was sharing root beer floats with his family at the end of World War II.

Ken was drafted in April 1952, several months prior to graduation from Roosevelt High School. At that time, the Korean War was in full operation and it was clear that draftees would be sent abroad to fight in this conflict. He was inducted into the U.S. Army at the Minneapolis Armory and sent to Fort Sheridan (Illinois) and later Fort Gordon (Georgia) where he received his basic training. From there he was shipped to a communication school in Augusta, Georgia where he was trained in the operation of military radios.

The new private arrived in Korea in January of 1953, and was attached to Regimental Headquarters for the 8th Army under General Ridgeway. He served as driver of a van that transmitted messages from the officers in the field to the majors and colonels at regimental headquarters. Although not involved in direct combat, Ken did receive enemy fire on several occasions while driving the van. One of his favorite memories was getting to know the fellow students from Roosevelt High School that were drafted at about the same time. After completing his two years of military service, Ken was discharged at Fort Sheridan in April of 1954 at the rank of Sergeant. Upon discharge from the military, Ken realized how fortunate he was to be alive as "some of my buddies did not come back." He added, "the Lord blessed me and looked out for me in Korea."

Upon his return to the states, Ken enrolled in Mankato State College with the goal of teaching history in high school. He had always been athletic having played three sports in high school (football, basketball and baseball) and so tried out for the college basketball team and was accepted. However, after taking several classes in ancient history, Ken decided that the teaching field was not for him so he left college to pursue a career in baseball! Ken played for a farm ball club in Eau Claire, Wisconsin then moved to a Triple AAA baseball club - the Nashville Braves. He went on to play several seasons with this club in positions of outfield and first base. One of the highlights of his baseball career was meeting baseball greats Ted Williams and Bob Feller! Nonetheless, his baseball career came to an end when he slid head first into home plate and injured his shoulder. After his stint in professional baseball, Ken received a job offer from Northwestern Bell (predecessor of Century Link) and went on to work there 35 years as a supervisor of a construction crew that laid cable throughout the Midwest. After retirement, he worked for the Apple Valley Golf Course part-time and retired for the second time in 1997.

While at Mankato State, a young, attractive woman named Deanna Draper came up and introduced herself to Ken during a break from (Continued ... on page fourteen)
(Continued ... from page thirteen)
a basketball game. She was a student at Gustavus Adolphus -
whose team was playing Mankato State that particular evening.
They struck up a conversation which led to a friendship that
eventually led to marriage on
May 11, 1957. The couple were
married 55-years and had five
children: Sharon, Stovc, Stuart,
Scott and Sheldon plus eight
grandchildren and two great-
grandchildren. Ken described
Deanna as a woman who "loved
to smile and laugh and loved the
Lord."

He described their years together
as "happy-go-lucky" and full of
contentment. They raised their
family in Bloomington and
Burnsville and most recently
Apple Valley. Sadly, Deanna died
on April 25, 2012 following a
lengthy battle with cancer. Since
that time Ken has kept busy
traveling to Mesa, Arizona where
he has a second home, volunteer-
ing at a local food shelf Saturday
mornings and collecting old coins
and stamps.

Ken came to Fort Snelling Chapel
about five years ago. He had
been attending a suburban church
for many years, but felt it was
getting too big and that he was
no longer connected to the people
or the service "too much rock
music." Since he was an Army
vet, he was familiar with the
Chapel so decided to visit one
Sunday in 2014. Ken felt
immediately at home due to the
"traditional worship, great
sermons, friendly people and
the emphasis on veterans." He
recommends that visitors to the
Chapel, "Listen to God's Word
and look around at the Chapel to
see all the good things that are
taking place."

I asked if he wanted to add any-
thing else and he told me, "God
bless everyone and Go Army!"

It seems appropriate to close
with one of Ken's favorite
selections from the Bible - the
23rd Psalm.

In this psalm, God similar to a
shepherd cares, guides and
protects His "sheep." Believers
in Jesus Christ are the Lord's
sheep and the focus of His
attention. We have nothing to
fear though we may "walk
through the valley of the shadow
of death" as we are redeemed
by the shed blood of Jesus
Christ. Believers can claim the
promises of this psalm provided
we listen to our Savior's voice
and follow Him, secure in the
knowledge that we will "dwell in
His house forever!"

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures,
He leads me beside quiet waters,
He restores my soul.
He guides me in paths of righteousness
for His name's sake.
Even though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for You are with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Thank you Ken Swensen for
your military service and your
presence and participation at
Fort Snelling Chapel!

— Submitted by Eva Zorn

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Special Patriotic/
Veterans Events . . .

Sun, 10 Nov 19 — Veterans Day
Remembrance — recognizing U.S.
veterans of all branches of the armed
forces.

Sun, 1 Dec 19 — Pearl Harbor
Remembrance — recognizing
survivors ... with the tolling of the
ship bell for those who have passed
away since last year.

Mark your calendar with these dates
... and join us at 11:00 a.m.
Creation Corner

"For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse." (Romans 1:20)

Every fall, the Sedum flowers around my patio turn from green to a violet color and the Monarch Butterflies gather by the dozens to drink the nectar as they store up energy that will be needed for their amazing flight to Mexico. So what’s the big deal about butterflies? When you see a butterfly, you are seeing the second phase of a two-phased miracle of life. Our awesome Creator designed the process of metamorphosis, that transforms an interesting, but somewhat repulsive, crawling, leaf-eating creature, into a beautiful, fluttering butterfly ... born first, in function, then “born again” as a new creation of magnificent beauty.

The monarchs that spend the winter in Mexico live for about 8 months while the others live only 1-2 months. The entire round-trip migration of monarchs takes place over 3-5 generations.

How do they know where to go? Evolution says this all happened by chance; how could it have? There are too many steps. God set this up from the beginning to show his great power. God has bound the information into the genetic code of each butterfly so that each "knows" what stage of the migration cycle it has to fulfill. This information is passed on to each generation. This shouts design.

Far more incredible than it’s migration, is the monarch’s metamorphosis. Everything about this creature is unexplained by evolution.

- The monarchs leave Mexico in March - arriving in North America to mate and lay eggs. These eggs hatch, grow into butterflies, mate, lay eggs and die - all within about a month.
- Subsequent generations keep moving north, mating, laying eggs and dying.
- In August / September, the great-great grandchildren of the original butterflies which left Mexico are born. This generation must make the migration back to Mexico— a journey of up to 3,000 miles.
- How could this have happened by chance ... when any flaw along the way would have produced death?

God, the master engineer, designed this incredible system whereby the caterpillar seals itself into a chrysalis, dissolves itself into jelly, and emerges as a butterfly. As you see the monarch’s migration, be amazed by its 3,000 mile flight ... but be equally amazed at how it transformed itself into a butterfly.

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

— Submitted by: John Kruse

1 Each fall, more than 100 million monarchs migrate from all over North America to 12 small groves of firs in a 60 by 70 mile area on a mountain range west of Mexico City. And they do this without ever having made the trip before! Let’s follow their life cycle process through one calendar year:

1 INSPIRED EVIDENCE: Only One Reality
Julie Von Vett & Bruce Malone
Copyright © December 2011
www.searchforthetruth.net
Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation
This is a non-denominational Christian church founded in 1967. We invite you to join us for worship each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. at this historic Chapel.
The Fort Snelling Veterans Memorial Chapel is a unique Minnesota memorial — a splendid monument to the patriotism, the moral earnestness and the convictions of the people of this state — a shrine to commemorate those who have died for their country. Weekly Sunday worship is sponsored by the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation and is not subsidized by the state.

For Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation information call the Foundation Office at (952) 888-1525, or write to the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation 9031 Penn Ave S Bloomington, MN 55431

or e-mail to info@fortsnellingmcf.org
or check our web site at www.fortsnellingmcf.org

Chapel Foundation Staff:
Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Beale, Jr., Sr. Chaplain
Rev. Philip A. Winn, Jr., Associate Chaplain
Dr. Desderius Klempay, Organist
Bev Johnson, Administrative Assistant
Carol Nygaard, Accounting Specialist
Eva Zorn, Musical Guest Coordinator

The Snelling Spirit Staff:
The Snelling Spirit is a bimonthly publication of the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel Foundation. We welcome your input, your letters and your suggestions.

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<td>21st Sunday after Pentecost</td>
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<td>10:00 a.m. Christian Education 11:00 a.m. Worship Service Sermon: &quot;Reclaiming Our Country for Christ&quot; Music: Tim Dahl, guitar/voice</td>
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<td>10:00 a.m. Christian Education 11:00 a.m. Worship Service Sermon: &quot;Faithful &amp; Honorable&quot; Music: Augsburg Centennial Singers</td>
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<td>6:30 p.m. Publicity Committee Mtg.</td>
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<td>10:00 a.m. Christian Education 11:00 a.m. Worship Service Sermon: &quot;The Scalpel &amp; Surgeon&quot; Music: American Swedish Institute</td>
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<td>23 9:00 a.m. Board of Directors Mtg.</td>
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<td>28 Thanksgiving Day</td>
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<td>10:00 a.m. Christian Education 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion Sermon: &quot;God's Re-Payment Plan of Thanks-Living&quot; Music: Steve Zorn/Diane Wesby</td>
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| **1st Sunday of Advent**  
Pearl Harbor Remembrance  
10:00 a.m. Christian Education  
11:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Sermon: “Peace in a World of Turmoil”  
Music: Chord Ayres Chorus | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13  |
| 2nd Sunday of Advent  
10:00 a.m. Christian Education  
11:00 a.m. **Worship Service**  
Sermon: “Something Great from Something Small”  
Music: Women of Song Chorus | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20  |
| 3rd Sunday of Advent  
10:00 a.m. Christian Education  
11:00 a.m. **Worship Service**  
Sermon: “A 3M Christmas”  
Music: Tamara Henschel, Flute |   |     | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  |
| 4th Sunday of Advent  
10:00 a.m. Christian Education  
11:00 a.m. **Worship Service**  
Sermon: “What If There Was No Christmas?”  
Music: Chad Shullis, Vocal Soloist | 29  | 30  | 31  |     |     |     |
| 1st Sunday after Christmas  
11:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Sermon: “Were You Born in a Barn?”  
Music: Nancy Guertin, Vocal Soloist |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|     |     |     |     |     |     |     |

**December 2019**

Office: 9031 Penn Avenue South, Bloomington, MN 55431  
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